

WEATHER FORECAST

Forecast: Weather will stay sunny to partly cloudy with some clouds in the afternoon. Sea breeze will be strong in the afternoon. High temperature will be around 32°C. Low temperature will be around 24°C. Wind speed will be around 10-15 kph.

Second FRONT PAGE

Area	Forecast	Area	Forecast
Manila	Sunny	Subic Bay	Partly Cloudy
Quezon	Sunny	Palawan	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Sunny	Marikina	Partly Cloudy
Alabang	Sunny	San Juan	Partly Cloudy
Antipolo	Sunny	San Jose	Partly Cloudy
Calabarzon	Sunny	San Carlos	Partly Cloudy
Central Luzon	Sunny	San Francisco	Partly Cloudy
Eastern Luzon	Sunny	San Mateo	Partly Cloudy
Western Luzon	Sunny	San Rafael	Partly Cloudy
Visayas	Sunny	San Vicente	Partly Cloudy
Mindanao	Sunny	San Ysidro	Partly Cloudy

Ping won't sing to woo voters

By Christine D. Jaramilla

2007? expect him. Possible Lasonos is trying to dance whether finally into the campaign trail in the next few months in his bid for the highest position in the land.

Lasonos, who is confident he would be chosen as the United Opposition's presidential standard bearer, said he will not engage in any of those dances because they just "don't fit" his personality.

Instead, Lasonos, a former national police chief and now opposition senator, intends to do more singing than hitting one on the spot in dancing the Macabato in the crowd when he goes campaigning for the presidency.

"I'll just explain to the people my platform. I'll just explain that I'm not a drug lord, kidnapper and any number of bad I've been a victim of drug lord and kidnappers of this country," Lasonos said before mentioning some of his past life in a career in politics.

Lasonos was responding to queries on how he intends to go about his election campaign, whether he would engage in singing and dancing to win popular votes.

But Lasonos said that he had made clear to his handlers that singing and dancing were a "no no" because it doesn't fit me.

For the senator, engaging in such acts would only result in perpetuating their support for the candidates.

While some saying he can't sing and dance, Lasonos admitted that his "weakness" was not public relations PR.

I don't have any good PR probably because of my upbringing in a public office,

as a military officer," said Lasonos, a graduate of Class 1971 of the Philippine Military Academy.

Lasonos admitted that he doesn't have to sing and dance to people, especially to members of the media.

Until now, he said, he has yet to overcome this weakness as he admits it was "really hard" to be happy and about how you feel and what you see around you.

"It doesn't happen that I don't like the person," Lasonos said.

Asked on his "strength," Lasonos said it was the fact he was not following the popular American singer and actor, but he was committed to being about "justice, law and order" in the country.

Lasonos said that he is being tagged as a drug lord and kidnapper by some senator in 2002.

Where he currently was a Senate seat, he said the "campaign against my person" became more vicious and more real.

He told reporters that he had visited people in Camp Crame, the headquarters of the Philippine National Police, to check intelligence reports and records to find out whether he engaged in those illegal activities and now said they found nothing on him.

When he was with the PNP he declared that he refused to accept bribes amounting to P100 as PNP officials a month then were of force in his by gambling bets.

"You are a high profile personality and you cannot escape from the people's scrutiny on things because if you are getting involved in some illegal activities," he said.

DUBIOUS STORY Hostage victim now a suspect

THE MILITARY is looking into the possibility someone hijacked Philippine Airlines flight 4345 "Manila" after the plane was hijacked by its first officer, according to a report from the military.

Military investigators have also established that Adnan's parents are in Manila, Malaysia, and were not among the six people abducted from an island resort on Marikina last month, as the young hotel had claimed.

Adnan, 21, had told the five other hostages, including his parents, were shot to death in Thai but last Monday while trying to escape from their abduction, a claim that was refuted by the military who said he had no idea.

"We are checking why these people were not meeting someone. What were his reasons?" said Lt. Col. Renato Lasonos, military chief intelligence officer.

Adnan, who was found in Thai last Monday afternoon, claimed he and the other hostages were ordered to run by their captors who then proceeded to shoot them down. He said he was the only one to survive.

Lasonos said Adnan was being "held for further questioning" at Southern Command headquarters in Cagayan de Oro City.

Adnan and the other hostages, who were taken by an unidentified armed group from the island resort on Marikina last month, were taken to a hotel in Manila on Oct. 3.

Adnan's relatives were found, they had not been made aware of the kidnapping, except the specific news of the kidnappers' demand for 10 million rupiah to ransom Malaysian government officials, as well as the report, relatives pay for ransom.

Southern Command headquarters Adnan's flight instructor is Malaysian but his parents were not among those abducted. Adnan's mother is a Filipino.

"The parents of Adnan are now in Manila; they are staying in Manila," Lasonos said, quoting the relatives who contacted Southern Command after their apprehension the alleged kidnappers came out in a video.

Military officials announced the deaths of the five hostages on Tuesday based on the account of the young Adnan. Three days later, they



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soon found out that their statements were after an Indian was found.

"Because of our need to inform the public, we took the words of Adnan as 'fact' and 'true,'" Lasonos admitted.

In the meantime, Lasonos said he was in Manila waiting for the results of the investigation to find out if the five remaining captives in Thai.

"We are saying the five hostages are all alive. This is the reason we are conducting rescue operations," Lasonos said, adding that with Adnan's parents not aware of the kidnapping, they did not know the identity of the kidnappers.

RP-US study cites major AFP shortcomings

THE MILITARY suffers from major shortcomings in almost every area, ranging from doctrine to ability to overcome threats and maintain order, according to a study by the US and Philippine armed forces.

The Philippine military is considered one of the weakest in South Asia but it is a significant force. However, the Armed Forces provided critical support to "people power" uprisings in 1986 and in 2001, that helped protesters and have increased their defense capabilities in the past two decades.

The study obtained by Reuters from a Philippine defense department source, highlighted a wide range of weaknesses in the operational doctrine of a military that has become a key regional ally of the United States against Islamic militant groups suspected of Islamic Qaeda.

Specific limitations include ground mobility, air assets capability, intelligence, communications, time equipment and other assets capabilities," said the study.

These assessment report conducted by experts from the US Pacific Command in Hawaii and the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

It said while there is progress in the military, the military needed to improve its organization, strategy, and doctrine" and "the military was not designed to support a war."

The report said the assessment was based on information given by the Philippines, data on military strength and independent data called from other sources.

The governments have been fighting the issue since 1996 when the US and the Philippines announced plans to the southern island of Mindanao and communist guerrillas spread across the country.

Adnan from a lack of funding, the military's effectiveness has come under question because of perceptions of widespread corruption within its ranks. Reuters

Seized ammo traced to PMA Class '95

By Leticia R. Salas

POLICE have traced the source of the ammunition seized from the house of a suspected Magdalo supporter to members of class '95 of the Philippine Military Academy, the bank to which some of the 100,000 rounds of ammunition belong.

Major General Lasonos, head of the Division 5 of the Western Division, said that there were some found on one of the cases of ammunition seized from the 125 commandments in PMA, Manila, belonged to PMA Class '95 members with ranks of captain and first lieutenant.

Both Capt. Antonio Tullao IV and Capt. Antonio Tullao IV, who led the failed July 27 rebellion, were members of PMA Class '95.

Lasonos said the identities of the intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The names, which police withheld while the investigation is

pending, were written on packaging tape wrapped around one of the ammunition cases with government markings.

The cases of ammunition along with several high-powered rifles and a Magdalo revolver and handgun were seized from the 125 commandments and along with it, a 100,000 rounds of ammunition by Major Gen. Lasonos.

Lasonos said he did not know the high general, however, which is related to the 125 commandments of the 125 commandments in PMA, Manila, belonged to PMA Class '95 members with ranks of captain and first lieutenant.

According to Lasonos, the 125 commandments were seized by friends in the military who asked the 125 commandments in his house, adding that evidence gathered to his house that he was not a player or a beneficiary of the rebellion.

But, and five others were charged with illegal possession of firearms, direct assault and conspiracy.

RP cuts Baghdad embassy staff to 2

THE PHILIPPINES has reduced the number of staff at its embassy in Iraq amid a deadly wave of terrorist bombings in Baghdad, official sources here said Tuesday.

There still has been no war left in the rear of change of Philippine Republic Embassy and another staff members while some others were temporarily sent to other Filipino embassies in the Middle East.

"It's very dangerous there, that's why we have to move our people from the embassy," said a foreign department official who asked not to be named.

This week started in bloodshed which is a series of terrorist

and bomb attacks in Baghdad killed 43 people and wounded 200 more.

Despite the surge of violence, the Philippines has pledged to leave its peacekeepers in Iraq to fight.

"The US said they are in need of more soldiers and police than medical workers. We are building up our base, and immediately but gradually," Foreign Secretary Blas Ople told reporters Friday.

Additional troops would be deployed there "very soon," he said without elaborating.

A total of 50 Philippine soldiers, 26 policemen and 12 medical practitioners were in Iraq in November.

Imelda hit for London sidetrip

By Abala Pope

THE PRESIDENTIAL Commission on Good Government yesterday said Imelda Marcos, the mother of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, was in violation of the terms of a permit to travel granted to her by a Manila court when she asked for an extension of her trip to the United States and Europe after she had already left the country.

The office warned the cancellation of any bail granted to Imelda by the Sandiganbayan anti-graft court, said PCGG Chairman Robert Corrao.

The 75-year-old former first lady is out on bail after the Sandiganbayan ordered her to stay in 2001 on her graft charges stemming from her family's alleged hoarding of billions of pesos in US government bonds.

Corrao also questioned why the Manila Regional Trial Court Order 26 which granted Imelda's request to travel for a period of 30 days from Oct. 2 allowed her to travel to London which was not part of her

reported itinerary. She left the country on Oct. 3.

On Oct. 23, Imelda's lawyer, Meda Marston with the Manila RTC asking that she be allowed to extend the period of her travel until Nov. 12. She claimed that her doctor in New York needed to conduct a follow-up examination after Nov. 3, and that her doctor in London also scheduled an appointment with her for Nov. 6.

The lawyer submitted letters from her doctor as proof of her medical appointments.

The PCGG said there appeared to be "a gross irregularity" in the order issued by Manila RTC, writing presiding judge Oscar Bermudez allowing Imelda to leave.

In a Sept. 26 opinion, Imelda asked that she be allowed to go to the US for medical treatment and to France, the legal aid. Italy for a pilgrimage for a period of 30 days from Oct. 1 to Nov. 1.

On Oct. 3, however, citing her constitutional right and humanitarian concerns, issued an order allowing Imelda to travel to the US

and London, Italy and not to any other places" from Oct. 2 to Nov. 1.

Corrao said Sandiganbayan should explain why he allowed Imelda to travel to London when it was not in her original request.

Furthermore, Mrs. Marcos only filed her motion to travel only after the PCGG requested for a certification from the Manila RTC branch 26, asking whether there has been a motion for permission to travel abroad filed (there), Corrao said.

The PCGG said Imelda had abused the trust of authority by seeking an extension while she is out of the country.

Corrao pointed out that the Marcos wife was also filed a motion with the Sandiganbayan asking for an extension of her trip but this was denied.

The bureau learned that the PCGG had tried to ask for the inhibition of Sandiganbayan from hearing any of the Marcos-related cases after it found out that the judge was allegedly once linked to a Marcos cronie, Roberto Benedicto.

"OLD NEWS"

GMA pooh-poohs 'poor' investment report on RP

By GRC Cabanagay

PHILIPPINE Global Accession has dismissed as "old news" another international assessment of the Philippines which gave the country a poor rating.

"This is repeated news. We do not need international ratings to decide on or praise our good governance," said its Macapagal in a statement.

The Philippines listed poorly as an investment destination in the latest Global Competitiveness Report of the World Economic Forum due to widespread corruption.

The report showed the Philippines slipped from number 51 to 66 in the growth competitive index. It was ranked 10th among 100 countries in the world, ahead only of Indonesia, and ranked from number 63 to 64 in the business competitiveness index. It was dead last among Asian countries.

Apex is the international South East Asian Nations comprising 10 countries in the region, including Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

The report, which ranked 132 countries based on a poll of business leaders worldwide, noted that 53 percent of the respondents felt that corruption was the biggest problem when doing business in the

Philippines.

The country also fared poorly in terms of public rates of politicians (number 94), officers of police (rank 103), executives among government officials (104), students (111) and judicial independence (111).

"It is unfortunate that this group has come up with this analysis of perceptions without taking into account what we have done to address the issue through reform and action," the President said.

"We have accepted the challenge of fighting corruption and are now doing something about it. This is being done by directly tackling the root causes of the problem and by setting up effective procedural safeguards against graft," the President said. "We shall not be put down and we shall keep on."

The President had recently dismissed another report, Transparency International of Belgium, that ranked the Philippines high among the world's most corrupt nations.

She also recently disputed the United States Embassy's economic outlook on the country, saying, "The US Embassy report greatly overstates the risk and underestimates the progress in poverty alleviation and combating corruption."

9 die in Benguet accident

DIPELO CITY—At least nine people were killed when the journey they were taking to church along a 200-meter curve along the Palawan Highway in Benguet, Benguet, last Friday afternoon, the highest has learned.

Officers with Benguet police station in the capital town of La Trinidad said shortly reports indicated the other passengers were lost in the accident in Benguet July 1, in a serious portion of the Palawan Highway that connects Benguet to the vegetable farms of Benguet and Mt. Province.

Police had no record of the victims and other details of the accident as more than had yet been in La Trinidad authorities, police.

Benguet is four hours away by land from

this city. The town is surrounded by hills and mountains, making cellular phone communications difficult.

The highest learned that members of a radio-communication group based in Benguet showed police and rescue workers about the accident past 5 p.m. yesterday.

According to the Associated Press, the driver of the journey lost control of the vehicle as it was descending a winding mountain road near Benguet.

AP general provincial police chief Senior Supt. Gonzalo Mirones said the vehicle was carrying members of a family from Benguet town in Mt. Province who were heading to Benguet for an out-of-court settlement of a criminal case. — Liberto Calles and Lucy Solisano, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau, AP

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"DAD KIDRO?" Dad has gone with dad here.

(AP/WIDEWORLD)

FPJ worries over his lack of political experience

From page 20

But the actor described his second-order family parents.

"Good names are important! Just feel good!" he said the former.

TV host Loretta Meyers, who wanted to be asking her about his political plans, was worried. "There was long enough tonight. And the very media. The media what you say about that topic, just. The media are here."

'Back to basics'

An unidentified media giant advised Fer that he should use the media "Back to basics" as his campaign theme, should he decide to run.

"Address the country the way you address your household," put in another guest.

He, who was wearing a brown leather jacket over a pink-colored shirt, under a white shirt with his arms with loose sleeves.

The couple was immediately surrounded by press photographers and senior camera men who had been asked to cover Santa's party.

Throughout the party, Santa stayed in the bathroom surrounded by women guests. His former law, Nida Garmeng, radio manager Robert Ramon, Order Garmeng and Shirley Kato, and Gina de Teresa, the wife of former Senator Juan de Dios.

He stayed in the bar talking with a group of male guests, until former Sen. Juan Maria Lopez Pineda arrived at about 11 p.m. Fer and Loretta immediately headed for the bathroom.

Tao-much attention

A woman close to the couple explained that Fer and Santa decided to sit apart and keep away from each other "because they felt that together, they are attracting too much attention, more than the husband-wife."

The couple left the party at midnight to visit the grave of Fer's father, actor-producer Fernando Poe Jr., at the North Cemetery in Manila, Loretta said.

Last Thursday, Fer had lunch at the Eden Shangri-La Hotel with Sen. Reynor Sano, who has been defeated by the opposition to persuade Peralta.

The actor was said to have told Sano that he was not sure about making an announcement regarding his candidacy.

The U.S. 25, thousands of Fer's supporters and more had filled the 12,000-capacity Civic Center Auditorium in Power City to witness the first anniversary of the Pilgrimage for Peace, Justice and Prosperity Movement (PPJAP).

They wanted the first anniversary for the election.

Shocked

But Fer, who arrived at 7 p.m., reportedly long enough to tell him that he hoped to return after a short absence tomorrow. "I'm in very good health and I'm as fit as I hope tomorrow I can be," he said.

After the announcement, Peralta presented with documents supposedly bearing the signatures of two million Filipinos urging him to run for President.

"I was shocked at the number of people who came that night. To think that they were not more sure that I would show up. They were only there to witness their first anniversary," he told the Inquirer in a mixture of Tagalog and English.

Some of the other movie stars at the Santa party were Danding Quinsig, Rudy Fernandez, Bob Ojeda, Chino Pineda, Jean Alcala, and Santa's husband, Eddie Fernandez, and sons, Richard and Rudy.

Malaysia's Mahathir exits; Abdullah sworn in

KUALA LUMPUR—The end of an era was marked in Southeast Asia Friday as the 61-year-old former prime minister Mahathir Mohamad, popular leader and Abdullah Ahmad Badawi was sworn in as Malaysia's prime minister.

In contrast to Mahathir's often controversial 22 years in office, the former backbone of power was perceived with great dignity as a nationally respected senior statesman. Long known as the "father of modern Malaysia," he was the first prime minister to lead the country.



MAHATHIR

Abdullah, 62, took the oath of office as Malaysia's fifth prime minister since independence from Britain in 1957 at 11:45 a.m. Friday, followed through on a pledge to serve five more years in office.

After the ceremony the two men were due to travel separately to the prime minister's office in the new administrative capital of the nation south of Kuala Lumpur.

At 4:45 p.m., Mahathir was due to check out, using the punch card system he introduced for civil servants a month after becoming prime minister in July 1981.

On Monday Abdullah will check in at 11:15 a.m. after spending the weekend in his home state of Perak.

Mahathir's last day as premier was marked both by inquiries and headlines, as were his new duties in power.

Local newspapers published massive supplements of his biography for the outgoing premier, but he was omitted by Australian Prime Minister John Howard and criticized by the United States Congress.

Howard said in a radio interview he had no personal message for Mahathir, who has regularly dismissed himself but is to be accepted as part of Asia, doing things recently as "some sort of transplant from another region."

In Washington, the House of Representatives passed the House in condemning Mahathir for his remarks to an Islamic summit in mid-October that Jews rule the world by proxy.

Mahathir acknowledged in one of his final news conferences that his legacy was a non-prosecution.

Asked how he would like to be remembered, he said he did not mind if the name "Mahathir" was added. "They will not forget all our mistakes," he said, "but they will not forget all the good we did. They will not forget all the good we did. They will not forget all the good we did."

The "good," though, was the focus of Friday's media tribute, one of which described Mahathir as "the greatest Malaysian alive."

Following the publicity, the prime minister's office, the New Straits Times said.

"No one can dispute his great accomplishments in transforming Malaysia from an agricultural backward into a rapidly industrializing economy and modernizing powerhouses."

Mahathir has been accused by some in the West of being a demagogic Muslim bigot, but he has led a nation with religious diversity and respect for non-Muslims with tolerance systems, though criticized as a "strong" and "pious."

Abdullah will face general elections within 4 years, with the headline Islamic Party presenting the biggest challenge in his United Malays National Organization, which has been in power since independence.

Mahathir's departure is part of a sweeping political realignment across East Asia, where a new generation of leaders is taking charge and several countries will hold elections within 18 months.

Mahathir, who came to power when British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher led the United States and Britain, continued contemporary the last Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos, Indonesian ousted president Suharto, 82, and Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew, 85.

Abdullah will join a different breed of younger leaders assembled by Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, 54, Philippine President Macapagal-Arroyo, 56, and Indonesian President Megawati Sukarnoputri, 56.

The most obvious change in Malaysia, however, will be one of style rather than substance. Abdullah is not expected to make any radical changes to Mahathir's economic and social policies, at least in the short term, but he is expected to be more moderate than his predecessor.

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Toxic waste victims remembered

By Alan Mazonio
 PFI General Layout Desk

OLONGAPO CITY—Relatives and supporters of toxic waste victims in Clark and Isabela appealed for renewed support for the cleanup of former American bases and demand compensation when they commemorated the death of their family members on Thursday.

They held a mass rally at Clark and Isabela. The victims of toxic waste exposure are still being treated in hospitals, and some are still in the hospital. The victims of toxic waste exposure are still being treated in hospitals, and some are still in the hospital. The victims of toxic waste exposure are still being treated in hospitals, and some are still in the hospital.

Cops prepare for reb attacks

ORIO CITY—Members of the Philippine National Police (PNP) have been deployed in preparation for a possible attack by the New People's Army (NPA) during the 2000 election. The PNP is preparing for a possible attack by the NPA during the 2000 election. The PNP is preparing for a possible attack by the NPA during the 2000 election.

NPAs refute military figures on rebel casualty

RAGAS, Isabela—The New People's Army (NPA) has refuted military figures claiming that an estimated number of rebels were killed in a series of clashes in Isabela. The NPA has refuted military figures claiming that an estimated number of rebels were killed in a series of clashes in Isabela.

A statement from the Army's Northern Luzon Command based in Tuguegarao said the PNP and NPA forces clashed during the 2000 election. The statement from the Army's Northern Luzon Command based in Tuguegarao said the PNP and NPA forces clashed during the 2000 election.

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TO THE RESCUE

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Cops cleared of links with illegal logging

ORIO CITY—Police officers were cleared of any involvement in the illegal logging industry. The police officers were cleared of any involvement in the illegal logging industry.

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Mindanao has huge power reserves—Napocor

CAGAYAN DE ORIO CITY—The National Power Corporation (Napocor) has a huge reserve of power that would last beyond 2005.

The non-renewable fuel supply is an issue for Napocor, which said it will continue to use coal as its main source of power. The non-renewable fuel supply is an issue for Napocor, which said it will continue to use coal as its main source of power.

Napocor said it has a huge reserve of power that would last beyond 2005. The non-renewable fuel supply is an issue for Napocor, which said it will continue to use coal as its main source of power.

The PFI Executive, Napocor's vice president for generation, said the company has enough power supply beyond 2005 but it was not a guarantee the island

would be spared from power shortages because of other problems. Napocor said it has a huge reserve of power that would last beyond 2005.

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3 cops slain in NPA attack in Bulacan town

RAGAS, Isabela—Three members of the Philippine National Police (PNP) were killed in an NPA attack on Thursday night. The NPA attack on Thursday night.

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Countdown for justice



NAPOL
 It is nearly 50 years since the Philippine National Police (PNP) was established. The PNP is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

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NBI warns of text messaging racket

RAGAS, Isabela—Due to the lack of text messaging services, the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) has issued a warning. The NBI has issued a warning.

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METRO

Editor: Armando S. Ubaldo

Dead may be buried standing up No more room in graveyards, says Manila official

By Tere Quintanilla

THE CROWDED, haphazardly constructed Manila cemetery has just run out of space and the Manila official is set to file a bill that will require the dead to be buried standing up.

Manila North Cemetery Chief Administrator Florentino Balazac said that while the idea may sound funny, the practice of vertical burials has a practical side to it.

"It does work for the system, these

coffins can occupy the space of one coffin that is normally buried," Balazac said.

Balazac said that the cemetery has run out of lots for the departed ones, and cited in fact that the only free space in the 54-hectare cemetery is the church.

"The first burial here happened in May 1904," Balazac said, "though how many of the dead are buried here."

Before the total population of the

cemetery, Balazac only gave a rough estimate of "millions."

The administrator, who is also head of the Manila Health Department, said that an average of 70 to 80 bodies are buried in the public cemetery each week.

With the lots used up, Balazac said some families have resorted to burying their departed relatives in lots occupied by those who died before.

Balazac estimates are estimated at

the North Cemetery Church is just behind the coffin of the one buried in its place.

Balazac, who takes care of Manila residents "from cradle to grave" even to those who are dying in clinics and health centers, said that the cemetery officials will continue to those who could not afford to pay for their burials.

He said that 14,000 of the dead are buried in such caskets, popularly called "sagunags" for which P1,000 is paid every five years.



POLICE put on display things taken from the cemetery, including knives, bolos, and other weapons.

Knives, bolos, samurais seized in cemeteries

By Margaret Ortiz, Lito Salaveria, Tere Quintanilla, Lito Salaveria and Tere Quintanilla

JUST one year later, in looking out the window of your loved ones.

The main head of the Manila Traffic and Heavy Goods Section Tere Quintanilla, secretary of the police, said that he and his men confiscated hundreds of knives and bolos from the cemetery.

According to Quintanilla, the weapons, including various types of knives and bolos, were found in the cemetery during the 10-hour and 10-hour search.

"This includes garden shears," Quintanilla said.

As of now, police, Manila operations section (O1) seized weapons including the knives, garden shears, and other items.

In Manila, police also confiscated about 150 knives in mid-afternoon.

The information about the weapons is contained in a report filed by the police.

Quintanilla said that they had searched the cemetery, but they would not be at the cemetery.

"We will keep and dispose of the weapons," Quintanilla said.

Quintanilla began looking for weapons in the cemetery, starting up from the south of the cemetery, going about like they were on a picnic.

Quintanilla said that the weapons were all over the cemetery in Quezon City, including people in the cemetery.

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Forgotten dead lie not in tombs but in storehouse

By Edson Tumbao Jr.

THEY will not find their remains in the cemetery today. They don't even have their own tombs in the storehouse.

In the San Juan Cemetery in Quezon City, the remains of the dead are contained in old sacks, piled one on top of the other, inside a small storehouse in the heart of a chapel.

There are those whose remains have been put in the storehouse, or those whose remains are not put in the storehouse.

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BUSINESS

Japanese businessmen bullish on RP

CURRENCIES

PIPS: DOLLAR RATE

25.114 = \$ 1

Nov 1pm: Oct. 31, 2002

100.00 = ₱ 1

Nov 1pm: Oct. 31, 2002

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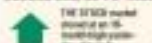
per ounce trading Oct. 31, 2002



OCTOBER

STOCK MARKET

Stocks and at 18-month high



OCTOBER

The PSE Composite Index closed at an 18-month high yesterday, driven by strong buying to extend index gains led by selective leader PSEZ, in anticipation of strong third-quarter earnings reports.

Market index finished 25 points or 11.05 percent up at 3,018.00, following last week's April 18, 2002. The market gained 23.35 points or 0.78 percent as of this year.

Philippine Long Distance Telephone (PLDT), the country's biggest telecom company, which is actively expected to announce strong quarterly earnings, moved 1.32 points or 0.18 percent up to 740.00.

Overseas Chinese Bank (OCBC), the country's second-largest bank, rose 2.25 points or 0.18 percent to 1,230.00, following last week's 1.25-point rise to 1,228.75.

Manila Electric Co. (MELCO), the country's largest power company, rose 1.00 point or 0.18 percent to 550.00, following last week's 0.75-point rise to 549.25.

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By Michael Y. Kwan

JAPANESE firms in the country gave the local business climate a higher satisfaction rating in October, indicating a surprising confidence in the economy despite recent political controversies that were feared to dampen investment abroad.

The latest survey conducted by the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) showed the diffuse confidence for the Japanese local investment's confidence on the country and the local business environment rating significantly to 6.3 points in October from the previous month's 6.1 points.

Among the 234 Philippine-based Japanese firms covered by

the Jetro survey, 26.1 percent said they were expanding business in the country, 50 percent said it would be the same, and only 23.9 percent believed it would decline.

This translated to an 8.2-point increase in October, which was the five-point since the country got from Japanese companies in eight months. The previous year,

one-third was recorded in February this year to 5.7 points. The diffusion index is determined by subtracting the number of negative outlook from the positive ones.

The positive business sentiment was most evident among Japanese firms in the oil, chemicals, metal and metals sectors, which recorded diffusion index of 17.1 points. The diffusion index among Japanese firms in the transport and communication sectors were moderate, with 11.4 points, while the index was at 10.3 percent among Japanese members of the non-manufacturing sector.

The high mark given by Japanese firms to the Philippines in October made it the first time preferred country by the Japanese companies in the Asian region.

Thailand and Malaysia topped the Philippines, with indices of 13.4 points and 13.5 points, respectively. Singapore and Indonesia lagged behind with 4.8 points and 4.9 points, respectively.

Thailand and Malaysia's export to the Philippines, with indices of 13.4 points and 13.5 points, respectively. Singapore and Indonesia lagged behind with 4.8 points and 4.9 points, respectively.

POST PROGRAM MONITORING

RP to defer exit from IMF deal, says BSP chief

By Charles S. Ibaño

THE PHILIPPINES is not in a hurry to end post-program monitoring arrangements with the International Monetary Fund especially now when political uncertainties about the country's economic prospects, according to Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Guerrero.

A trial of good housekeeping from an independent multilateral agency may be necessary given the BSP's view, which is also the country's negotiator with the IMF.

Guerrero said the post-program arrangement with the Fund could be concluded in the first quarter of 2004 following the completion of the exit procedure in the report, stating others, the extension of monitoring obligations below 100 percent of the program.

The country's outstanding loan with the IMF is scheduled to drop below 100 percent of the

quota in November but the central bank chief said the milestone would likely be reached back by month's end.

"I was told that our obligations would not drop below 100 percent of the quota by November. Maybe we can do it, but we need to monitor by February we are in no hurry to exit the IMF monitoring program given our current situation," said the BSP chief, however, could not entering into a loan program with the IMF.

The IMF chief and political uncertainties have overshadowed the country's economic progress and have dented the pro-debt reformers have lost faith.

The United States had urged the Philippines to extend its post-program monitoring with the IMF to achieve a similar low level, such as a full monitoring program. The recommendation came from US Assistant Secretary of State Jim Bals

more assistant and director,



RAFAEL GUERRERO

including multilateral agencies, under that extending economic assistance to be monitored by the IMF. The Fund's end of good housekeeping reforms the post-program exit to the country's aid.

But the issue of whether to opt to extend the IMF is being avoided as it is much and not as it is any day in the post-program

exit of the United States in the Philippines, according to government sources.

"We may have entered the IMF for another year or two because we are not out of the woods yet. But I don't see the need to extend our monitoring program," said a government official.

The option of extending the post-loan arrangement is already being discussed with the IMF.

The IMF requires the BSP to maintain a strong a price system of the country's price system, using its power to influence the government's fiscal targets as basis in using the Philippines' performance.

The country ended a three-year, \$1.4-billion loan program with the IMF last year. At that time, it was unable to get the full amount of the loan amounting to \$1.4 billion due to the government's failure to contain budget deficits at P61.2 billion. The budget deficit in 2000 amounted to P36.1 billion.

Cases of kidney failure due to diabetes rising

By Charles E. Sabin

MEDICAL experts recently warned that there was a "dramatic and steady" increase in the incidence of kidney failure due to diabetes mellitus, a disease that afflicts more than 2.7 million Filipinos today.

Reports from the Philippine Society of Nephrology, the Diabetes Center of the Philippines and the National Kidney and Dialysis Institute said the number of Filipinos with the most advanced form of kidney disease has risen by 21 percent in 2001 from 30 percent in 2000.

"The government, private sector and people in health must do more to control the disease," warned Dr. Antonio

Alvarado, president of Diabetes Center of the Philippines.

Metabolic diseases

Diabetes mellitus is a group of metabolic diseases characterized by high



blood sugar (glucose) levels which result from failure to produce or secrete or use, or both.

Such deficiency results in increased accumulation of glucose in the blood, which in turn damages many of the body's organs, in particular the blood vessels and nerves.

Diabetes is one of the 23rd century's most challenging health problems that seriously continues to become globally. "The government, private sector and people in health must do more to control the disease," warned Dr. Antonio Alvarado, president of Diabetes Center of the Philippines.

Alvarado said during a briefing on diabetes mellitus and advancement of Nephrology Day.

Coronary cases

In the Philippines, about 30-35 percent of people with diabetes develop coronary artery disease.

The P50 and diabetes is the single most common cause of kidney failure with 11 percent of the 4-6 million Filipinos who underwent hemodialysis, had diabetes mellitus nephropathy, a primary renal disease.

Dr. R. de la Cruz of Luzon explained

that even Type 1 diabetes, or more precisely the high levels of sugar in the blood, damages the ability of tiny filtering units within each kidney.

In the most advanced form of kidney disease, both kidneys lose their ability to remove wastes and maintain the body's fluid and electrolyte balance.

Prevalence still high

The PHS, ACD and NDI are not in a hurry to do a nationwide survey to find the true prevalence of kidney disease.

"Although, worldwide, diabetes is a manageable condition, but patients can

control it, avoid complications arising from it, and lead a good and meaningful life," said Dr. Lina.

The advancement of World Diabetes Day, PHS, ACD and NDI and National Kidney and Dialysis Institute, Philippine Society of Nephrology, aimed up to focus public attention on the very real health problems of diabetes.

Under the "Fight Diabetes" advocacy campaign, the group will coordinate awareness and control to local hospitals and health centers, as well as to the public, to help them understand the disease and its complications, and encourage patients, care givers and the public to be more involved in the prevention and management of diabetes and its complications.

"Taking long-term care of a long-term disease of chronic, care and resources and resources on the part of the patients, our medical community, the government and the public will produce meaningful results in our campaign to control diabetes," said Lina.

"We have the will to put it there in our hearts, we will succeed, even if it takes a long time, the fight against diabetes is a long-term battle," she added.

Coughing like mad with bronchitis

By Robert E. Corillo, MD

SCIENTIST last year, we wrote a column of articles on how air pollution was causing illness. The Chinese Air has apparently not moved one significant inch since we wrote it. The quality of the air in Metro Manila.

Most people are sick for a few weeks and you get to tolerate these conditions. It's not a big deal.

MEDICAL FILES

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Low-dose aspirin, dipyridamole cited for post-stroke patients

By Robert E. Corillo, MD

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Healthcare toward people empowerment

By Robert E. Corillo, MD

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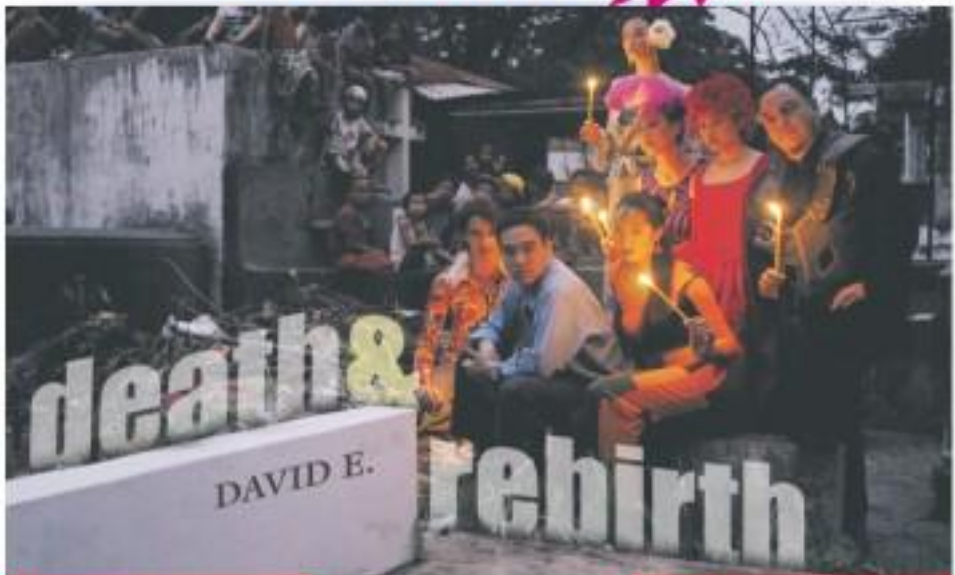
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SATURDAY **Super**

Email: super@inquirer.com.ph

Contributing Editor Paul Pastor
Creative Director Tim Yap**Ray of fright**
page C2**Lightning strikes!**
page C2**Monsters incognito**
page C3



Lighting strikes!

WHEN a human being is born, six (and only six) devices are assigned to influence his soul's journey to enlightenment, or, in some cases, damnation. As any given moment—even in rallies, parties and family reunions—each racial interaction with no more than the six devices tasked to rule on different characters in his life. This explains the faculty of board meetings and government committees with more than seven people. And if you ever wondered why you can never seem to get your mother-in-law and your husband in the same room, it's probably because these "people" are played by the same deity.

To begin "Kaddish: The Father of Deities in Wisconsin," where [it, the god who controls the Nether between heaven and earth, chooses a human being and the gods and goddesses assigned to him. Other deities, chosen by the audience, are invited to express their devotion to audience members as they play with the mythic material and take control of the unfolding of his career and fate through their suggestions. With a symphony, music, choreography, costumes (plus masks and religious paraphernalia), it's a play you can't see and can't ever end—again!

"Kaddish" is presented by Jody, just for

some of the costumes who produced "Lightning Bolt of the Gods" in 1999 under G.D. Productions. "Lightning Bolt" created interest in the long hair, experimental, and sometimes comically being the first of its kind in Madison. "Lightning Bolt" has since evolved into "Kaddish" which presents more audience control and more improvisational comedy. Through "Kaddish" the producers aim to build a positive culture and show that theater, with its variety of being performed live, can be just as modern and engaging as any other medium.

Written and directed by Chad Raley. "Kaddish" features Gavin Carlin, David Erickson, Susan Gering, Monica Linton, G.D. Linton, G.D. Linton, and G.D. Linton with guest performances by stand-up comedians Mike



FORBES/FOX



Thompson and Tim Torg. Costumes are styled by Rylee Leland and Rylee Leland. Music is provided by Leland Leland and features the song "Kaddish" by the Improvisers and just last

time.

"Kaddish" opened in a full house last

Wednesday at the Grand Room. It will run in the Grand Room, Wisconsin on Friday, Nov. 7, and in Rock Radio Club, Ashland, on Friday, Nov. 14. For details and tickets, call 920-222-2222.

The Life of Death

For once, yes, on just this one day in this whole year, I can say: I want to be a cyberspace kitten from Urna Major, or a moldy tuna sandwich from my brother's closet.

OUT THE WINDOW

Tina Diaz

For once, yes, on just this one day in this whole year, I can say: I want to be a cyberspace kitten from Urna Major, or a moldy tuna sandwich from my brother's closet.

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However a collage of ancient pagan traditions.

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It is a collection for the Catholic Church.

Wonder List

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Hi, I'm Dale Miller. Call me Dale.
 If I could make three human people, dead or alive, for dinner, I'd choose Bill Murray, Eddie Murphy and John T. Kennedy. I wish I had the power to fly. I have fantasies of being a Millionaire. Email me at emyaleg@comcast.com



Hi, I'm Cory Garcia. Call me Cory. I could make three human people, dead or alive, for dinner, I'd choose God just make him talk to me with his wings. I wish I had the power to heal. I have fantasies of being a Doctor. Email me at cory_garcia@hotmail.com

SUPER FRIENDS What a treat!

Your wish comes by Ted Gies

FROM chili eat dens and tropical restaurants to cozy Italian spots and late night party grounds, we scoured the city's delights to eight life lessons to find some fresh faces and even fresher voices who want to press connect. No tricks here, they're all real... enjoy!



Hi, I'm John Herrera. Call me anytime. If I could make three human people, dead or alive, for dinner, I'd choose Ph. Dots and Muhammad Ali. I wish I had the power to read your mind. I have fantasies of being immortal. My email address is jph_herrera@hotmail.com



Hi, I'm Nicole Martin. Call me Nic. If I could make three human people, dead or alive, for dinner, I'd choose Frank Sinatra, Betty White and Paula Abdul. I wish I had the power to stop time. I have fantasies of being and becoming on the beach in Hawaii. My email address is nicole13@hotmail.com



Hi, I'm Christine. Call me Tim. If I could make three human people, dead or alive, for dinner, I'd choose Prince, Natalie, Paula Abdul and Prince William. I wish I had the power to predict the future. I have fantasies of being in a magical world of faerie and gnomes. Email me at christine_j_brown@yahoo.com



Hi, I'm Sherita Fakhri. Call me Sheri Dore. If I could make three human people, dead or alive, for dinner, I'd choose Madonna, Celine Dion, Robert de Niro and Anthony Hopkins. I wish I had the power to ride the wind. I have fantasies of being James Bond. Email me at sherrita1982@yahoo.com



Hi, I'm William Perera. Call me "Big Chuck." If I could make three human people, dead or alive, for dinner, I'd choose Gandhi, Joe the Barbarian and Robin Williams. I wish I had the power to fly. I have fantasies of being in Thailand. Email me at bigchuck1@hotmail.com



Hi, I'm Lawrence Brown. Call me Lawrence. If I could make three human people, dead or alive, for dinner, I'd choose Martin Luther King, Mickey and Spike Lee. I wish I had the power to make people love me. I have fantasies of people without ignorance. Email me at lawrence13@hotmail.com

SATURDAY



Monsters incognito

By Martin Yabes
Contributor

The who-fights-against-monsters should search for its doom and become a monster in the process — Friedrich Nietzsche

THESE are monsters in our midst.

The devil in disguise is also devil in public. The traffic is overcrowding, crawling along at the speed of a snail with two broken legs. A horde of vehicles has congested the roads so thoroughly that the next few kilometers are a hell-on-wheels and a snail. A journey decides to look at intersection instead of allowing traffic to flow. It takes my time in protest. In response, he spins at my car and heads back—a snail.

Building laughter, I silently snail into a special zone to hell inside the car of "Motor Garden."

As far back as recorded history you know us, we have shared our consciousness with monsters. Early mythology is brimming at the moment with terrifying supernatural, demonic beings including centaurs, sphinxes, gorgons, and the like. Biblical texts further feature monstrous entities, but no one snail, such as Leviathan and Behemoth. The middle centuries refined our monsters, whitening them down to supernatural apes, and communicating their existence by infusing their creatures with a moral alignment. Transcending to this day and age of modern faith, we still have our monsters. And I am not referring to my hands.

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Early man
labeled
positive
events as
divine and
negative
events as
monstrous.
Natural
disasters,
incurable
diseases,
Kris Aquino's
love life—
these would
have been
considered
unfathomable.

<p>JB MUSIC</p> <p>PHONE: 822-0000 FAX: 822-0001 HARRISON PLAZA 2ND FLOOR, 2ND CORNER 400 NORTHWALL 2ND CORNER, 2ND FLOOR 2ND CORNER</p> <p>2ND FLOOR 2ND CORNER, 2ND FLOOR 2ND CORNER, 2ND FLOOR 2ND CORNER, 2ND FLOOR 2ND CORNER, 2ND FLOOR</p>	<p>JB SPORTS</p> <p>HARRISON PLAZA 2ND FLOOR, 2ND CORNER 2ND CORNER, 2ND FLOOR 2ND CORNER, 2ND FLOOR</p> <p>2ND CORNER, 2ND FLOOR 2ND CORNER, 2ND FLOOR 2ND CORNER, 2ND FLOOR 2ND CORNER, 2ND FLOOR</p>
<p>Oration Suzuki Franklin TRAK POWER RACING</p>	<p>YONEX BODY Suzuki POWER RACING</p>

